

ABSTRACT

AL-V-295

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(173)
 Wellersburg, Pennsylvania vicinity
 Public/private

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked)
 1902 (new monument set at
 additional site)

Milestone No. ---(173) on the west slope of Little Allegheny Mountain, marks a point about 4350 feet west of the preceding monument and mound on the ridge of Little Allegheny Mountain ^{and is a} little more than 160 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of ^{Mason and Dixon's} 230.228-mile West Line. The monument was new when set in 1902 at this additional site on the Line during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD; is in very good condition, firmly set, unaltered; measures about 10 inches square by about 1½ feet high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1766 on the east side (when this area was preliminarily surveyed), and 1902 on the west side (when this new site was first monumented). No. ---(173) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line, ^{provincial} the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of the 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, it is also significant symbolically for its relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Survey No.

Magi No.

AL-V-B-295
AL-VB-284

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 173)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the southeast side of T-766

CITY, TOWN

Wellersburg

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Allegany / PA: Somerset

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

N/A

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☐ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE☐ PUBLIC ACQUISITION☐ ACCESSIBLE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ not applicable☐ NO☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER: state
boundary marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Allegany County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-VB-284 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTIONSurvey No. ~~AL-V-295~~

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CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

X additional site (1 2)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(173) was a new monument when set in 1902 at an additional site on Mason and Dixon's West Line during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is a very plain, dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top; is in very good condition, firmly set, unaltered; measures about 10 inches square by about 1½ feet high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1766 on the east side (when this area was preliminarily surveyed), and 1902 on the west side (when this new site was first monumented).

The area here is a small, cleared field in the midst of the densely forested western slope of Little Allegheny Mountain. The site is within Election District 20 of Allegany County, MD, and Southampton Township of Somerset County, PA; about 1 mile southeast of the village of Wellersburg, PA; at a point about 4000 feet east of MD 47/PA 160 and about 800 feet south of T-766; about in the middle of the rectangular fenced field, in a new east-west barbed wire fence following the Line and about 20 feet south of the old pipeline. It cannot be seen from any road, nor easily from nearby because of the field crops and weeds; but seems protected by the fencing.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill along the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground, with the remaining 3 feet for setting firmly into the ground when possible. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex are clear and intact; although there are small chips at the top corners and larger chips along the southeastern and southwestern vertical edges.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the several kinds of new monuments set in 1902 and the Resurvey method of securing these)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-V-295

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1766/1767 (area surveyed/checked) BUILDER/ARCHITECT Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
1902 (new monument set) SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(173) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was preliminarily surveyed in 1766, marked at irregular intervals with cairns and additional wood posts the following year, and the present site on the Line established and monumented in 1902 with a new Cockeysville marble marker during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(173) is also significant for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Cumberland (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 68589, northing 439905

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Allegany

STATE Pennsylvania

COUNTY Somerset

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

8/2/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

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MASON EDIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (173)

CUMBERLAND QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA-WEST VIRGINIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1949 PHOTOREV. 1974 SCALE: 1"=2000'

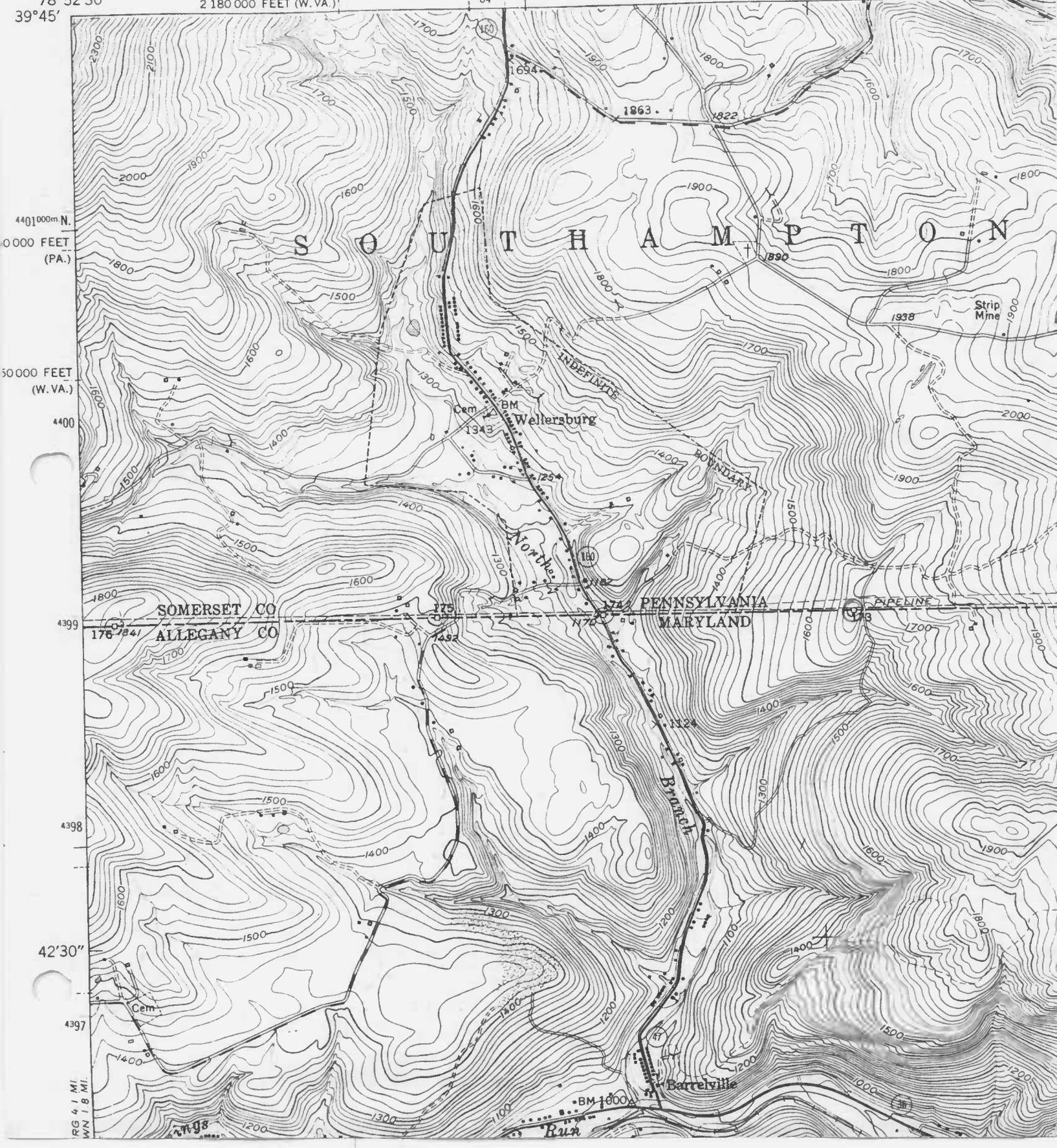
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



78°52'30"
39°45'

2 180 000 FEET (W. VA.)

BERLIN 16 MI. PLEASANT UNION 1.9 MI. 685 000m E. 50' 686 1 700 000 FEET





MHT

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MASON & DIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE — (173)
SE CORNER (M/1766)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 8/2/81 (1981.28.12)



MHT

AL-V-295

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE; MILESTONE — (173)
NW CORNER (P/1902)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 8/2/81 (1981.28.9)